

## **Chapter 2: Drainage**

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## **SECTION 200 Introduction**

The Board of Supervisors desires to protect and preserve the physical beauty, historical heritage and environmental integrity of the County. The Board recognizes that development may degrade the waters through increasing flooding, stream channel erosion, and the transport and disposition of waterborne pollutants. Therefore, the County finds it is in the public interest to enable the establishment of stormwater management programs.

## **SECTION 201 General Provisions**

### **201.1. Statutory Authority**

The Virginia Stormwater Management Law (“Law”, also known as the Virginia Stormwater Management Act or “Act”) Title 10.1, Chapter 6, Article 1.1 of the Code of Virginia, enables localities to adopt, by ordinance, a stormwater management program consistent with state regulations promulgated pursuant to the Law.

### **201.2. Purpose**

The purpose of Sections 201 through 207 is to establish minimum stormwater management requirements and controls to protect properties, safeguard the general health, safety, and welfare of the public residing in watersheds within this jurisdiction, and protect aquatic resources. These sections seek to meet that purpose through the following objectives:

1. Require that land development and land conversion activities control the after-development runoff characteristics, as nearly as practicable, to the pre-development runoff characteristics in order to reduce the magnitude and frequency of flooding, siltation, stream bank erosion, and property damage;
2. Establish minimum design criteria for the protection of properties and aquatic resources downstream from land development and land conversion activities from damages due to increases in volume, velocity, frequency, duration, and peak flow rate of storm water runoff;
3. Establish minimum design criteria for measures to minimize nonpoint source pollution from stormwater runoff which would otherwise degrade water quality; and
4. To reduce flood damage in an effort to safeguard public health, safety and property.

### **201.3. Applicability**

This chapter shall be applicable to all subdivision, site plan, or land use conversion applications, unless eligible for an exception by the Board of Supervisors or its designee. This chapter also applies to land development activities that are smaller than the minimum applicable criteria if such activities are part of a larger common plan of development that meets the applicability criteria, even though multiple separate and distinct land development activities may take place at different times on different schedules.

To prevent the adverse impacts of stormwater runoff, the county has developed a set of performance standards that must be met at all development sites. These standards apply to any land development or land use conversion activity disturbing 10,000 square feet or more of land.

Economic hardship is not sufficient reason to grant an exception from the requirements of this chapter.

The following activities are exempt from this chapter:

1. Permitted surface or deep mining operations and projects, or oil and gas operations and projects conducted under the provisions of Title 45.1 of the Virginia Stormwater Management Act;
2. Tilling, planting or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural, or forest crops;
3. Single-family residences separately built and not part of a subdivision, including additions or modifications to existing single-family detached residential structures;
4. Land development projects that disturb less than 10,000 square feet of land area; and
5. Linear development projects, provided that (i) less than 10,000 square feet of land will be disturbed per outfall or watershed, (ii) there will be insignificant increases in peak flow rates, and (iii) there are no existing or anticipated flooding or erosion problems downstream of the discharge point.

Further the following activities are exempt from Sections 203 and 204 of this chapter, unless otherwise required is Section 201.8 of this chapter.

1. Family transfers, administrative and large lot subdivisions.
2. Residential subdivisions in which all lots are greater than 3 acres or residential subdivisions with a total of 6 or fewer lots. If the Residue has an existing house, drainfield, etc. on it and no new construction is going to occur, then it does not count as a lot for this requirement.

#### **201.4. Compatibility with Other Permit and Ordinance Requirements**

This chapter is not intended to interfere with, abrogate, or annul any other ordinance, rule or regulation, statute, or other provision of law. The requirements of this chapter should be considered minimum requirements, and where any provision of this chapter imposes restrictions different from those imposed by any other or ordinance, rule or regulation, or other provision of law, whichever provisions are more restrictive or impose higher protective standards for human health or the environment shall be considered to take precedence.

#### **201.5. Severability**

If the provisions of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this chapter shall be judged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such order of judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this chapter.

#### **201.6. Reference Documents**

The latest edition of the following documents shall be utilized for the purposes of establishing design guidelines, which are not specifically detailed in this document but are included by this reference;

1. “Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook”, prepared by Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Chapters 3-6.
2. “Northern Virginia BMP Handbook: A Guide to Planning BMP’s in Northern Virginia”, prepared by the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission and the Engineers and Surveyors’ Institute.
3. “Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook”, prepared by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Other design criteria may be accepted solely at the discretion of the program administrator. Sufficient support material to document the methodology will be required.

### **201.7. Program Administration**

The Board of Supervisors designates the County Administrator or his designee as the program administrator.

### **201.8.General Drainage Requirements**

(see also appendix)

1. Determination of flooding and channel erosion impacts to receiving streams and/or drainage ways due to land development projects shall be measured at each point of discharge from the development project and such determination shall include any runoff from the balance of the watershed which also contributes to that point of discharge.
  - A. Flooding - Calculations for determining flooding shall be submitted in accordance with the following:
    1. Downstream properties and waterways shall be protected from damages from localized flooding due to increases in volume, velocity and peak flow rate of stormwater runoff in accordance with the minimum design standards set out in this section.
    2. The 2 and 10-year post-developed peak rate of runoff from the development site shall not exceed the 2 and 10-year pre-developed peak rate of runoff.
    3. In areas of streambeds subject to inundation with 100 acres or more of watershed, 100-year flood water surface elevations shall be computed. Drainage easements must be designated on site to preserve the inundation zone. Calculations shall be based on land use as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.
    4. All requirements as set forth in MS-19 and TB-1 must be met.

5. Linear development projects shall not be required to control post-developed stormwater runoff for flooding, if there is no net increase in impervious area, except in accordance with a watershed or regional stormwater management plan.

B. Stream Channel Erosion - To protect stream channels from degradation, specific channel protection techniques shall be provided as prescribed in the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook and the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations in accordance with the following:

1. Properties and receiving waterways downstream of any land development project shall be protected from erosion and damage due to increases in volume, velocity and frequency of peak flow rate of stormwater runoff in accordance with the minimum design standards set out in this section (see appendix).

2. The plan approving authority shall require compliance with Minimum Standard 19 of 4 VAC 50-30- 40 of the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations, promulgated pursuant to Article 4 (§ 10.1-560 et seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia.

2. Natural drainage/channel characteristics and drainage divides shall be preserved to the maximum extent practicable. Drainage analyses shall be considered within each drainage area.

3. Land development projects shall comply with the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law and attendant regulations and the County Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance.

4. Construction of drainage improvements, stormwater management facilities, or modifications to drainage ways and channels shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The applicant shall assure that all applicable environmental permits have been acquired for the project prior to approval of the final plan. Evidence of approval of all necessary permits, such as, but not limited to: US Army Corps of Engineers (COE), Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), etc. shall be provided.

5. Construction of drainage improvements, stormwater management facilities, and/or modifications to drainage ways within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplain shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible. When this is unavoidable, all improvements or modifications shall be in compliance with all applicable regulations under the National Flood Insurance Program, 44 CFR Part 59 and shall be engineered for structural integrity during the 100 year storm event by the primary flooding source or secondary source, whichever yields the most conservative design. Any construction activity proposed within a 100-year FEMA defined floodplain, will require the submission of a detailed Floodplain Study documenting pre-development and post-development conditions for review by the County. Modifications to the effective regulatory floodplain will require final FEMA determination at the owner's expense.

6. Conveyance - All stormwater conveyance practices shall be designed to convey stormwater to allow for the maximum removal of pollutants and reduction in flow velocities. This shall include, but not be limited to:
- A. Maximizing of flow paths from inflow points to outflow points;
  - B. Protection of inlet and outlet structures;
  - C. Elimination of erosive flow velocities. (The Virginia Stormwater Management Manual and Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook provides detailed guidance on the requirements for conveyance for stormwater practices.)
7. Proposed residential, commercial, or industrial subdivisions shall apply these stormwater management criteria to the land development process as a whole. Individual lots in new subdivisions shall not be considered separate land development projects, but rather the entire subdivision shall be considered a single land development project. Hydrologic parameters shall reflect the ultimate basin planned land uses and shall be applied in all engineering calculations.
8. The owner must prepare an erosion and sediment control plan in accordance with the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Minimum Standards (4VAC50-30-40) and the requirements of this chapter for all construction activities related to implementing any on-site disturbance exceeding 10,000 SF. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall be submitted concurrently with the development plan.
9. In subdivisions, all SWM/BMP facilities shall be placed in a common area unless prior approval has been obtained from the program administrator. Further, proposed or natural drainage ways shall not occur across or upon individual lots unless prior approval has been obtained from the program administrator. Proposed lot lines shall observe natural drainage ways to the maximum extent practicable.
10. Maintenance and Access Easements - The owner must ensure access to all drainage improvements and/or stormwater treatment practices at the site for the purpose of inspection and repair by securing all the maintenance easements needed on a permanent basis (see appendix). These easements will be recorded with the plan and will run with the land in all transfers, assigns, assumptions, or other of title to the property. See also subsection 203.4
- A. All drainage improvements and/or stormwater management facilities must be located within a drainage easement (i.e, 25 feet from the toe of slope and/or periphery) and shall be maintained by the landowner, an Owners or Homeowners Association, or other legal entity approved by the Board of Supervisors. Maintenance responsibilities shall be established in the required Deed of Dedication, in a form acceptable to the County Attorney.
  - B. Access to SWM/BMP facilities must be provided via an all weather vehicular traversable route contained within appropriate easements (see appendix).

C. Stormwater drainage easements shall be extended, where necessary, to upstream and downstream property lines to permit future development reasonable access to on-site drainage ways or drainage systems for overall continuity.

11. Embankments and water impoundments shall be in accordance with 3.01 through 3.08 of the Virginia Stormwater Management Control Handbook.

## **SECTION 202        Definitions:**

For the purposes of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them for Sections 200 through 207 and A200 through A207:

**"Accelerated Erosion"** means erosion caused by development activities that exceeds the natural processes by which the surface of the land is worn away by the action of water, wind, or chemical action.

**"Act"** means Article 1.1 (§ 10.1-603.1 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia.

**"Adequate Channel"** means a channel with a defined bed and banks, or an otherwise limited flow area that will convey the designated frequency storm event without overtopping the channel banks nor causing erosive damage to the channel bed or banks.

**"Applicant"** means any person submitting a stormwater management plan for approval.

**"Aquatic Bench"** means a 10- to 15- foot wide bench around the perimeter of a permanent pool that ranges in depth from zero to 12 inches. Vegetated with emergent plants, the bench augments pollutant removal, provides habitats, conceals trash and water level fluctuations, and enhances safety.

**"Best Management Practice (BMP)"** means a structural or nonstructural practice which is designed to minimize the impacts of development on surface and groundwater systems.

**"Bioretention Basin"** means a water quality BMP engineered to filter the water quality volume through an engineered planting bed, consisting of a vegetated surface layer (vegetation, mulch, ground cover), planting soil, and sand bed, and into the in-situ material.

**"Bioretention Filter"** means a bioretention basin with the addition of a sand filter collection pipe system beneath the planting bed.

**"Board"** means the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors.

**"Building"** means any structure, either temporary or permanent, having walls and a roof, designed for the shelter of any person, animal, or property, and occupying more than 100 square feet of area.

**"Channel"** means a natural or artificial watercourse with a definite bed and banks that conducts continuously or periodically flowing water.

**"Constructed Wetlands"** means areas intentionally designed and created to emulate the water quality improvement function of wetlands for the primary purpose of removing pollutants from stormwater.

**"Dedication"** means the deliberate appropriation of property by its owner for general public use.

**"Department"** means the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

**"Detention"** means the temporary storage of storm runoff in a stormwater management practice with the goals of controlling peak discharge rates and providing gravity settling of pollutants.

**"Detention Facility"** means a detention basin or alternative structure designed for the purpose of temporary storage of stream flow or surface runoff and gradual release of stored water at controlled rates.

**"Developer"** means a person who undertakes land disturbance activities.

**"Development"** means *land development* or *land development project*.

**"Drainage Easement"** means a legal right granted by a landowner to a grantee allowing the use of private land for stormwater management purposes.

**"Erosion and Sediment Control Plan"** means a plan that is designed to minimize the accelerated erosion and sediment runoff at a site during construction activities.

**"Flooding"** means a volume of water that is too great to be confined within the banks or walls of the stream, water body or conveyance system and that overflows onto adjacent lands, causing or threatening damage.

**"Grassed Swale"** means an earthen conveyance system which is broad and shallow with erosion resistant grasses and check dams, engineered to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff by filtration through grass and infiltration into the soil.

**"Hydrologic Soil Group (HSG)"** means a Natural Resource Conservation Service classification system in which soils are categorized into four runoff potential groups. The groups range from A soils, with high permeability and little runoff production, to D soils, which have low permeability rates and produce much more runoff.

**"Impervious Cover"** means a surface composed of any material that significantly impedes or prevents natural infiltration of water into soil. Impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, roofs, buildings, streets, parking areas, and any concrete, asphalt, or compacted gravel surface.

**"Industrial Stormwater Permit"** means an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued to a commercial industry or group of industries which regulates the pollutant levels associated with industrial stormwater discharges or specifies on-site pollution control strategies.

**"Infiltration"** means the process of percolating stormwater into the subsoil.

**"Infiltration Facility"** means any structure or device designed to infiltrate retained water to the subsurface. These facilities may be above grade or below grade.

**"Jurisdictional Wetland"** means an area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation.

**"Land Conversion Activities"** means any activity that results in a modification to the current or natural condition.

**"Land Development"** or **"Land Development Project"** means a manmade change to the land surface that potentially changes its runoff characteristics.

**"Land Disturbance Activity"** means any activity which changes the volume, velocity, or peak flow discharge rate of rainfall runoff from the land surface. This may include the grading, digging, cutting, scraping, or excavating of soil, placement of fill materials, paving, construction, substantial removal of vegetation, or any activity which bares soil or rock or involves the diversion or piping of any natural or man-made watercourse.

**"Landowner"** means the legal or beneficial owner of land, including those holding the right to purchase or lease the land, or any other person holding proprietary rights in the land.

**"Linear Development Project"** means a land development project that is linear in nature such as, but not limited to, (i) the construction of electric and telephone utility lines, and natural gas pipelines; (ii) construction of tracks, rights-of-way, bridges, communication facilities and other related structures of a railroad company; and (iii) highway construction projects.

**"Local Stormwater Management Program"** or **"Local Program"** means a statement of the various methods adopted pursuant to the Act and implemented by a locality to manage the runoff from land development projects and shall include an ordinance with provisions to require the control of after-development stormwater runoff rate of flow, water quality, the proper maintenance of stormwater management facilities, and minimum administrative procedures consistent with this chapter.

**"Locality"** means Fauquier County.

**"Maintenance Agreement"** means a legally recorded document that acts as a property deed restriction, and which provides for long-term maintenance of storm water management practices.

**"Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution"** means pollution from any source other than from any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyances, and shall include, but not be limited to, pollutants from agricultural, silvicultural, mining, construction, subsurface disposal and urban runoff sources.

**"Nonpoint Source Pollutant Runoff Load"** or **"Pollutant Discharge"** means the average amount of a particular pollutant measured in pounds per year, delivered in a diffuse manner by stormwater runoff

**"Off-Site Facility"** means a stormwater management measure located outside the subject property boundary described in the permit application for land development activity.

**"On-Site Facility"** means a stormwater management measure located within the subject property boundary described in the permit application for land development activity.

**"Owner"** means the owner or owners of the freehold of the premises or lesser estate therein, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or other person, firm or corporation in control of a property.

**"Percent Impervious"** means the impervious area within the site divided by the area of the site multiplied by 100.

**"Person"** means any individual, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, utility, cooperative, county, city, town or other political subdivision of the Commonwealth, any interstate body or any other legal entity.

**"Plan-approving Authority"** means the Board of Supervisors or its designee, responsible for determining the adequacy of a submitted stormwater management plan.

**"Planning Area"** means a designated portion of the parcel on which the land development project is located. Planning areas shall be established by delineation on a master plan. Once established, planning areas shall be applied consistently for all future projects.

**"Post-development"** refers to conditions that reasonably may be expected or anticipated to exist after completion of the land development activity on a specific site or tract of land.

**"Pre-development"** refers to the conditions that exist at the time that plans for the land development of a tract of land are approved by the plan approving authority. Where phased development or plan approval occurs (preliminary grading, roads and utilities, etc.), the existing conditions at the time *prior to* the first item being approved or permitted shall establish pre-development conditions.

**"Program Administrator"** means the County Administrator or his designee.

**"Program Authority"** means the county which has adopted a stormwater management program.

**"Recharge"** means the replenishment of underground water reserves.

**"Redevelopment"** means the process of developing land that is or has been previously developed.

**"Regional (watershed-wide) Stormwater Management Facility"** or **"Regional Facility"** means a facility or series of facilities designed to control stormwater runoff from a specific watershed, although only portions of the watershed may experience development.

**"Runoff"** or **"stormwater runoff"** means that portion of precipitation that is discharged across the land surface or through conveyances to one or more waterways.

**"Site"** means the parcel of land being developed, or a designated planning area in which the land development project is located.

**"State Waters"** means all waters on the surface and under the ground wholly or partially within or bordering the Commonwealth or within its jurisdiction.

**"Stop Work Order"** means an order issued which requires that all land disturbing and construction activity on a site be stopped.

**"Stormwater Detention Basin"** or **"Detention Basin"** means a stormwater management facility which temporarily impounds runoff and discharges it through a hydraulic outlet structure to a downstream conveyance system. While a certain amount of outflow may also occur via infiltration through the surrounding soil, such amounts are negligible when compared to the outlet structure discharge rates and are, therefore, not considered in the facility's design. Since a detention facility impounds runoff only temporarily, it is normally dry during nonrainfall periods.

**"Stormwater Extended Detention Basin"** or **"Extended Detention Basin"** means a stormwater management facility which temporarily impounds runoff and discharges it through a hydraulic structure over a period of time to a downstream conveyance system for the purpose of water quality enhancement or stream channel erosion control. While a certain amount of outflow may also occur via infiltration through the surrounding soil, such amounts are negligible when compared to the outlet structure discharge rates and, therefore, are not considered in the facility's design. Since an extended detention basin impounds runoff only temporarily, it is normally dry during nonrainfall periods.

**"Stormwater Management Facility"** means a device that controls stormwater runoff and changes the characteristics of that runoff including, but not limited to, the quantity and quality, the period of release or the velocity of flow.

**"Stormwater Management"** means the use of structural or non-structural practices that are designed to reduce storm water runoff pollutant loads, and/or peak flow discharge rates and control discharge volumes.

**"Stormwater Management Plan"** or **"Plan"** means a document containing material for describing how existing runoff and quality characteristics will be affected by a land development project and methods for complying with the requirements of the local program. Best Management Practices are part of the Stormwater Management Plan.

**"Stormwater Retention Basin"** see Wet Pond.

**"Stormwater Runoff"** means flow on the surface of the ground, resulting from precipitation.

**"Vegetated Filter Strip"** means a densely vegetated section of land engineered to accept runoff as overland sheet flow from upstream development. It shall adopt any vegetated form, from grassy meadow to small forest. The vegetative cover facilitates pollutant removal through filtration, sediment deposition, infiltration and absorption, and is dedicated for that purpose.

**"Watercourse"** means a permanent or intermittent stream or other body of water, either natural or man-made, which gathers or carries surface water.

**"Watershed"** means a defined land area drained by a river, stream, drainage ways or system of connecting rivers, streams, or drainage ways such that all surface water within the area flows through a single outlet.

**"Wet Pond or Retention Basin"** also known as a retention basin, is a man-made basin which contains a permanent pool of water much like a lake or natural pond. The wet pond is designed to hold a permanent pool above which storm runoff is stored and released at a controlled rate. The

release is regulated by an outlet device designed to discharge flows at various rates similar to the methods employed in an extended detention pond.

## **SECTION 203      Stormwater Management Program Permit Procedures and Requirements**

### **203.1. Permit Required.**

No land owner or land operator shall receive any of the building, grading or other land development permits required for land disturbance activities without first meeting the requirements of this Manual prior to commencing the proposed activity.

Unless otherwise excepted by this Manual, an approved SWM plan must be submitted and accompanied by the following in order for a land disturbing permit application to be considered:

1. Stormwater management and BMP plan in accordance with Subsection 203.2;
2. Maintenance agreement in accordance with Subsection 203.4;
3. Performance bond estimate in accordance with Subsection 203.5; and
4. Permit application and Plan review fee in accordance with Subsection 203.6.

### **203.2. Stormwater Management Plan Required.**

No application for land development, land use conversion, or land disturbance, or as otherwise excluded in this DSM, will be approved unless it includes a stormwater management plan, including Best Management Practices, as required by this Manual, detailing how runoff and associated water quality impacts resulting from the activity will be controlled or managed.

A stormwater management plan shall consist of a *concept plan* to ensure adequate planning for the management of stormwater runoff and quality control, and a *final plan*. Both plans shall be in accordance with the criteria established in this section.

No building, grading, or erosion and sediment control permit shall be issued until a satisfactory final stormwater management plan or a waiver thereof, shall have undergone a review and been approved by the program administrator after determining that the plan or waiver is consistent with the requirements of this Manual.

#### **1. Stormwater Management/BMP Concept Plan**

A stormwater management concept plan shall be required with all preliminary plan and rezoning applications, and will include all information from the SWM/BMP Preliminary/Concept Plan Checklist (see appendix) to evaluate the environmental characteristics of the project site, the potential impacts of all proposed development of the site, both present and future, on the water resources, and the effectiveness and acceptability of the measures proposed for managing stormwater generated by the project site. A concept plan will not be required if a preliminary plan or rezoning is not required.

The concept plan should be prepared at the time of the preliminary plan or other early step in the development process to identify the type of stormwater management measures necessary for the proposed project. The intent of this conceptual planning process is to ensure adequate planning for management of stormwater runoff from future development. To accomplish this goal the following information shall be included in the concept plan:

A. A map (or maps) indicating the location of existing and proposed buildings, roads, parking areas, utilities and structural stormwater management. The map(s) will also clearly show proposed land use with tabulation of the percentage of surface area to be adapted to various uses; drainage patterns; locations of utilities, roads and easements; the general limits of clearing and grading. A written description of the site plan and justification of proposed changes in natural conditions may also be required.

B. Preliminary engineering analysis to show that the proposed stormwater management measures are capable of controlling runoff from the site in compliance with the text and specifications of this Manual.

C. A written or graphic inventory of the natural resources at the site and surrounding area as it exists prior to the commencement of the project and a description of the watershed and its relation to the project site. This description should include a discussion of soil conditions, forest cover, topography, wetlands, and other native vegetative areas on the site. Particular attention should be paid to environmentally sensitive features that provide particular opportunities or constraints for development.

## 2. Stormwater Management/BMP Final Plan

Following review of the stormwater management concept plan, and modifications to that plan as deemed necessary by the County, a final stormwater management plan must be submitted for approval.

All stormwater management plans shall be appropriately sealed and signed by a professional in adherence to all minimum standards and requirements pertaining to the practice of that profession in accordance with Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia and attendant regulations certifying that the plan meets all submittal requirements outlined in this Manual and is consistent with good engineering practice.

All stormwater management plans shall have BMP's.

The final stormwater management plan, in addition to the information from the concept plan, shall include all of the information required in the Major Site Plan or Construction Plan checklists (see Chapter 1 appendix) and may also include the following:

### A. Project Identifier

The name, address, and telephone number of all persons having a legal interest in the property and the parcel identification number of the property or properties affected.

**B. Type 1 Soils Map or Preliminary Soils Report by a certified Professional Soils Scientist and Topographic Base Map**

An appropriate scale of the current Type 1 Soils Map or Preliminary Soils Report prepared by a certified Professional Soils Scientist and topographic base map of the site which extends to the top of the drainage shed and a minimum of 200 feet beyond the limits of the proposed development and indicates existing surface water drainage including streams, ponds, culverts, ditches, and wetlands; current land use including all existing structures; locations of utilities, roads, and easements; and significant natural and manmade features not otherwise shown. Soils information from the “Interpretive Guide to the Soils of Fauquier County” shall be placed on the base map for each mapping unit. The source of topographic and soil map shall be stated. A drainage divide map shall be provided that identifies all offsite and onsite drainage patterns to the top of each drainage shed.

**C. Calculations (See appendix for design guidelines)**

Hydrologic and hydraulic design calculations for the pre-development and post-development conditions for the design storms specified in this Manual shall be submitted. Such calculations shall include (i) description of the design storm frequency, intensity and duration, (ii) time of concentration, (iii) Soil Curve Numbers or runoff coefficients, (iv) peak runoff rates and total runoff volumes for each watershed area, (v) infiltration rates, where applicable, (vi) culvert sizing, (vii) flow velocities, (viii) data on the increase in rate and volume of runoff for the specified design storms, and (ix) documentation of sources for all computation methods and field test results. (See Section 204.)

**D. Soils Information**

Geotechnical properties for the hydrologic and structural properties of soils, for all dam embankments exceeding 15 feet in height or 15 acre feet in impoundment capacity, shall be described in a geotechnical report and submitted to the County for review. The report shall include boring depth, sampling frequency and types and associated laboratory testing with results and conclusions and follow the criteria in the Virginia Stormwater Management Manual.

Soil properties for infiltration facilities shall also conform to the guidance and specification outlined in the Virginia Stormwater Management Manual. Information shall include depth to rock, type of rock, depth to water table and permeability (in/hr) 3 feet below trench bottom. Information shall be provided by someone qualified to perform work.

**E. Maintenance Plan**

The design and planning of all stormwater management facilities shall include detailed maintenance procedures to ensure their continued function. These plans will identify the parts or components of a stormwater management facility that need to be maintained and the equipment and skills or training necessary.

#### F. Landscaping Plan

The applicant must present a detailed landscaping plan describing the woody and herbaceous vegetative stabilization and management techniques to be used within and adjacent to the stormwater practice. The landscaping plan must also describe who will be responsible for the maintenance of vegetation at the site and what practices will be employed to ensure that adequate vegetative cover is preserved. This plan must be prepared by a qualified individual familiar with the selection of emergent and upland vegetation appropriate for the selected BMP.

#### G. Maintenance Agreement

The applicant must execute an easement and a Stormwater/BMP Maintenance Agreement binding on all subsequent owners of land served by an on-site stormwater management/BMP measure in accordance with the specifications of this Manual (see appendix). See also Subsection 203.4.

#### H. Redevelopment

All redevelopment projects not served by an existing water quality BMP shall either reduce existing site impervious areas by 20% or implement water quality BMP's to reduce pre-redevelopment pollution loads of the existing site by 10%. Use the following formula:

$$10\% \text{ of existing impervious area} + 40\% \text{ of net increase of impervious} \\ \text{or} \\ 10\% \left( \frac{\text{ex. Imp.}}{\text{(total site A)}} \right) \times \left( \frac{\text{ex. Imp. "C"}}{\text{(total site "C")}} \right) + 40\% \left( \frac{\text{new Imp.}}{\text{(total site A)}} \right) \times \left( \frac{\text{new Imp. "C"}}{\text{(total site "C")}} \right) = \text{Total \% Removal Req.}$$

### 203.3 Plan Inactivity

Should a land-disturbing activity associated with an approved SWM plan in accordance with this section not begin within the 180-days following approval and plat recordation or cease for more than 180 days, the county may evaluate the existing approved erosion and sediment control plan and stormwater management plan to determine whether the plan still satisfies local program requirements and to verify that all design factors are still valid. If the authority finds the previously filed plan to be inadequate, a modified plan shall be submitted and approved prior to the resumption of land-disturbing activities, and a new performance bond shall be posted.

Any facility specifically designed to be regional in nature shall not be subject to the above criteria providing no modifications or changes to land use designations can be demonstrated.

### 203.4. Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreements

Prior to the issuance of any permit that has a stormwater management facility, as one of the requirements of the permit, the applicant or owner of the site must execute a maintenance agreement that shall be binding on all subsequent owners of land served by the subsequent owners of land served by the stormwater management facility.

1. Maintenance activities shall not alter the design function of the facility from its original design unless approved by the County prior to the commencement of the proposed maintenance activity.

2. Maintenance Agreement

Maintenance of all stormwater management facilities shall be ensured through the creation of a formal maintenance agreement that must be approved by the County and recorded into the land record prior to final plat approval. The agreement shall identify by name or official title the person(s) responsible for carrying out the maintenance. Responsibility for the operation and maintenance of stormwater management facilities shall remain with the property owner and shall pass to any successor or owner. If portions of the land are to be sold, legally binding arrangements shall be made to pass the responsibility to successors in title.

The agreement shall provide that in the event that maintenance or repair is neglected, or the stormwater management facility becomes a danger to public health or safety, the County shall have the authority to perform the work and to recover the costs from the owner.

### **203.5 Performance Guarantee**

The County shall require the submittal of a performance guarantee (cash escrow, letter of credit or such other acceptable legal arrangement) prior to issuance of a permit in order to insure that the stormwater practices are installed by the permit holder as required by the approved stormwater management plan.

1. The amount of the installation performance guarantee shall be the total estimated construction cost of the stormwater management/BMP practices approved under the permit, plus 25%.

2. The performance guarantee shall contain forfeiture provisions for failure, after proper notice, to complete work within the time specified, or to initiate or maintain appropriate actions which may be required of the applicant in accordance with the approved stormwater management plan.

3. If the County takes such action upon such failure by the applicant, the County may collect from the applicant for the difference should the amount of the reasonable cost of such action exceed the amount of the security held.

4. The landscaping portion of the performance guarantee for the stormwater management/BMP plan shall be held for one year after installation in accordance with the final plans and specifications prior to final release.

5. These requirements are in addition to all other provisions of the County ordinances relating to the issuance of such plans and are not intended to otherwise affect the requirements for such plans.

6. The County reserves the right to re-evaluate the performance guarantee associated with any project for which an extension is requested to ensure that the performance guarantee adequately reflects current market conditions.

**203.6. SWM/BMP Review Fees**

Applicants shall submit a review fee to Fauquier County as outlined in the Department of Community Development fee schedule in effect at the time of acceptance of the application.

**203.7. SWM/BMP Final Plan Submittal Review Application**

1. Applications shall include the following: one copy of the approved SWM/BMP concept plan, two copies of the stormwater management/BMP final plan, two copies of the maintenance agreement, the SWM/BMP checklist, and any required review fees.
2. Within 60 calendar days of the receipt of a complete application, including all documents as required by this Manual, the County shall inform the applicant whether the application and plan are approved or disapproved.
3. If the stormwater management plan is disapproved, the County shall communicate the decision to the applicant in writing. The applicant may then revise the stormwater management plan. If additional information is submitted, the County shall have 45 calendar days from the date the additional information is received to inform the applicant that the plan is either approved or disapproved.
4. If the final stormwater management plan and maintenance agreement are approved by the County, the following conditions apply:
  - A. The applicant shall comply with all applicable requirements of the approved plan and this Manual and shall certify that all land clearing, construction, land development and drainage will be done according to the approved plan.
  - B. The land development project shall be conducted only within the area specified in the approved plan.
  - C. The County shall be allowed to conduct periodic inspections of the project.
  - D. The person responsible for implementing the approved plan shall conduct monitoring to ensure compliance with the approved plan.
  - E. No changes may be made to an approved plan without review and written approval by the County.
  - F. The owner is responsible for maintaining certified construction logs, including performance as-builts surveys, and geotechnical inspections during subsurface or embankment construction and compaction activities as outlined in the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook. The County may request this information for review.

**SECTION 204                      General Criteria for Stormwater Management**

The following technical criteria shall be applied on all applicable land development and land conversion activities.

### 204.1 General

1. All development occurring within the County shall provide stormwater management facilities and Best Management Practices adequate to reduce increased runoff rates and nonpoint source pollution, as outlined herein. The design shall include control of stream flow rates, water surface levels, and runoff rates. This does not preclude demonstration of compliance with Minimum Standard 19 and TB-1 as a method of quantity control.

2. Outflows from a stormwater management facility shall be discharged to an adequate channel, so as to provide a nonerosive velocity of flow from the basin to the channel.

3. All stormwater management facilities shall have a maintenance plan which identifies the owner and the responsible party for carrying out the maintenance plan.

#### 4. Landscaping Plans Required

All stormwater management practices must have a landscaping plan detailing both the vegetation to be in the practice and how and who will manage and maintain this vegetation. This plan must be prepared by a qualified individual familiar with the selection of emergent and upland vegetation appropriate for the selected BMP.

#### 5. Maintenance Agreements

A legally binding covenant specifying the parties responsible for the proper maintenance of all stormwater treatment practices shall be secured prior to issuance of any permits for land disturbance activities.

### 204.2 Water Quality

General Policy for BMP and Stormwater Quality:

1. All development or redevelopment occurring within the County shall incorporate water quality measures (Best Management Practices).

2. The current edition of the “Northern Virginia BMP Handbook”, prepared by the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission (NVPDC), shall be used in the design and review of BMP facilities using the Occoquan Method. Other design criteria may be used solely at the discretion of the program administrator. Sufficient support material to document the methodology will be required (see appendix).

3. All stormwater runoff generated from new development shall not be discharged into a jurisdictional wetland or local water body without adequate treatment.

### 204.3 Insect Management

The design of all Stormwater Management and Best Management Practice Systems should incorporate measures to reduce the probability of mosquito breeding. These measures should be consistent with the most current guidelines and/or policies of all applicable governing agencies including, but not limited to, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission, local and state Health Departments and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

**SECTION 205 Construction Inspection**

All stormwater management construction inspections shall utilize the final approved plans and specifications for compliance. In addition, the inspection shall comply with the latest version of the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations, promulgated pursuant to Article 4 (§ 10.1-566) of Chapter 5 of Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia.

If the County determines that there is a failure to comply with the plan, notice shall be served upon the permittee or person responsible for carrying out the plan in accordance with Subsection 207 of the DSM.

**205.1. Post-Construction Final Inspection and As-Built Plans**

1. If embankment height exceeds 15 feet or the impoundment capacity exceeds 15 acre feet, the applicant will be required to submit evidence of geotechnical inspections conducted during embankment construction.
2. All applicants are required to submit “as built” plans and analysis for any stormwater management practices located on-site after final construction is completed. The plan must show the final design specifications for all stormwater management facilities and routing through the as-built condition, and must be certified by a professional engineer. A final inspection by the County is required before the release of any performance guarantee can occur. As-built analysis must meet or exceed the approved performance of each facility.

**SECTION 206 Maintenance Inspection and Repair of Stormwater Facilities****206.1. Maintenance Inspection of Stormwater Facilities**

To ensure proper performance of the stormwater facility, the property owner or owner’s association is responsible for inspecting the stormwater management facility in accordance with the approved maintenance plan and the stormwater management design manual. The responsible party shall keep written records of inspections and make them available to the County upon request.

In the event that the stormwater management facility has not been maintained, or has been damaged, and/or becomes a danger to public safety or public health, the County shall notify the person responsible for carrying out the maintenance plan by registered or certified mail to the address of the owner of record. The owner shall be required to provide an inspection of the facility, by a person qualified to perform such inspection. If the responsible party fails or refuses to correct deficiencies, to meet the requirements of the maintenance agreement, the County after reasonable notice, may correct a violation of the design standards or maintenance needs by performing all necessary work to place the facility in proper working condition, and recover the costs from the owner.

**SECTION 207 Enforcement and Penalties****207.1. Notice of Violation**

When the Program Administrator determines that an activity is not being carried out in accordance with the requirements of this Manual, a written notice of violation shall be delivered

by registered or certified mail to the applicant of record for the activity. Each calendar day of an activity conducted in violation of this Manual shall constitute a separate violation, but may be covered by one Notice of Violation. The notice of violation shall contain:

1. The name and address of the property owner;
2. The address when available or a description of the building, structure or land upon which the violation is occurring;
3. A statement specifying the nature of the violation;
4. A description of the remedial measures necessary to bring the development activity into compliance with this Manual and a time schedule for the completion of such remedial action;
5. A statement of the penalty or penalties that shall or may be assessed against the person to whom the notice of violation is directed;
6. A statement that the determination of violation may be appealed to the municipality by filing a written notice of appeal within thirty (30) days of service of notice of violation.

### **207.2. Stop Work Orders**

Persons receiving a notice of violation will be required to halt all construction activities. This “stop work order” will be in effect until the County confirms that the development activity is in compliance and the violation has been satisfactorily addressed. Upon failure to comply within the time specified, the permit may be revoked and the applicant shall be deemed to be in violation of this article and upon conviction shall be subject to the penalties provided by this Manual.

### **207.3. Civil and Criminal Penalties**

Any person who violates any provision of a local ordinance or program adopted pursuant to the authority of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or up to thirty days imprisonment for each violation or both. Each calendar day during which the activity occurs, or day during which required conditions are not met or standards are violated shall constitute a separate violation. In addition the County may pursue the following actions:

1. The County may apply to the circuit court to enjoin a violation or a threatened violation of the provisions of this Manual without the necessity of showing that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.
2. Without limiting the remedies which may be obtained in this section, the County may bring a civil action against any person for violation of this Manual or any condition of a permit. The action may seek the imposition of a civil penalty not more than \$2,000 against the person for each violation.
3. With the consent of any person who has violated or failed, neglected or refused to obey this Manual or any condition of a permit, the County may provide, in an order issued by the County against such person, for the payment of civil charges for violations in specific sums, not to exceed the limit specified in Subsection 207.3.2 of this Manual. Such civil

charges shall be instead of any appropriate civil penalty which could be imposed under Subsection 207. Such a local ordinance may also include sanctions.

#### **207.4. Holds on Occupancy Permits**

Occupancy permits shall not be granted until corrections to all stormwater practices have been made in accordance with the approved plans, Notice of Violation, Stop Work Order, or Permit requirements, and accepted by the County.

### **SECTION 208        Erosion & Sediment Control Requirements**

An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall be prepared in accordance with Chapter 11 of the county code as presented herein (see appendix).

#### **208.1. Purpose of section.**

The purpose of this section is to conserve the land, water, air and other natural resources of the county and to promote public health and welfare of the people in the county by establishing requirements for the control of erosion and sedimentation, and by establishing procedures whereby these requirements shall be administered and enforced.

#### **208.2. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them for Sections 208 and A208:

**“Administrator”**: A representative of the board of supervisors who has been appointed to serve as an agent of the board of supervisors in administering this section.

**“Agreement in lieu of a plan”**: means a contract between the plan-approving authority and the owner that specifies conservation measures that must be implemented in the construction of a single-family residence; this contract may be executed by the plan-approving authority in lieu of a formal site plan.

**“Applicant”**: Any person submitting an erosion and sediment control plan for approval or requesting the issuance of a permit, when required, authorizing land disturbing activities to begin.

**“Board or Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board”**: The agency created in Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia.

**“Clearing”**: Any activity which removes the vegetative ground cover, including but not limited to, root mat removal or topsoil removal.

**“Construction plan, erosion and sediment control plan or plans”**: A document containing material for the conservation of soil and water resources of a unit or group of units of land. It may include appropriate maps, an appropriate soil and water plan inventory and management information with needed interpretations, and a record of decisions contributing to conservation treatment. The plans shall contain all major conservation decisions to assure that the entire unit or units of land will be so treated to achieve the conservation objectives. The plan shall consist of, as

a minimum, a written document detailing the necessary erosion and sedimentation control measures and the timing of their installation, as well as scale drawings indicating the character, scope, and limits of land disturbing activities on the unit or units of land, and the locations of the conservation measures. These locations may be shown on the site plan or construction drawings for the project with which the land disturbing activity is related.

***“Conservation standard or standards”***: The criteria, guidelines, techniques and methods for the control of erosion and sedimentation found in Chapter 3 of the current edition of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, as amended.

***“Department”***: The Department of Conservation and Recreation.

***“Department of Community Development”***: The county Department of Community Development.

***“District or Soil and Water Conservation District”***: A governmental subdivision of the state, and a public body corporate and politic, organized in accordance with the provisions of the Soil Conservation Districts Law, Title 10.1, Chapter 5, Article 4, Code of Virginia, as amended.

***“Excavating”***: Any digging, scooping, or other methods of removing earth materials.

***“Grading”***: Any excavating or filling of earth materials or any combination thereof, including the land in its excavated or filled condition.

***“Land disturbing activity”***: Any land change which may result in soil erosion from water or wind and movement of sediments into state waters or onto lands in the state, including, but not limited to, clearing, grading excavating, transporting and filling of land, except that the term shall not include:

- (1) Such minor land disturbing activities as home gardens and individual home landscaping, repairs and maintenance work;
- (2) Individual service connections;
- (3) Installation, maintenance, or repair of any underground public utility lines when such activity occurs on an existing hard surfaced road, street or sidewalk provided such land disturbing activity is confined to the area of the road, street or sidewalk which is hard surfaced;
- (4) Septic tank lines or drainage fields unless included in an overall plan for land disturbing activity relating to construction of the building to be served by the septic tank system;
- (5) Surface or deep mining;
- (6) Exploration or drilling for oil and gas, including the well site, roads, feeder lines, and off-site disposal areas;
- (7) Tilling, planting, or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural, or forest crops, or livestock feedlot operations; including engineering operations as follows: construction of terraces, terrace outlets, check dams, desilting basins, dikes, ponds, ditches, strip

cropping, lister furrowing, contour cultivating, contour furrowing, land drainage and land irrigation; however, this exception shall not apply to harvesting of forest crops unless the area on which harvesting occurs is reforested artificially or naturally in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 11 (§ 10.1-1100 et seq.) of this title or is converted to bona fide agricultural or improved pasture use as described in subsection B of § 10.1-1163;

(8) Repair or rebuilding of the tracks, right-of-way, bridges, communication facilities and other related structures and facilities of a railroad company;

(9) Agricultural engineering operations including but not limited to the construction of terraces, terrace outlets, check dams, desilting basins, dikes, ponds not required to comply with the provisions of the Dam Safety Act, Article 2 (§ 10.1-604 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of this title, ditches, strip cropping, lister furrowing, contour cultivating, contour furrowing, land drainage and land irrigation;

(10) Disturbed land areas of less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet in size, unless an erosion and sediment control plan is required by the terms of any other state or county ordinance or regulation;

(11) Installation of fence and sign posts or telephone and electric poles and other kinds of posts or poles;

(12) Shoreline erosion control projects on tidal waters when all of the land disturbing activities are within the regulatory authority of and approved by local wetlands boards, the Marine Resources Commission or the United States Army Corps of Engineers; however, any associated land that is disturbed outside of this exempted area shall remain subject to this article and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto; and

(13) Emergency work or repairs necessary to protect life, limb, or property; provided that if the land disturbing activity would have required an approved erosion and sediment control plan, if the activity were not an emergency, then the land area disturbed shall be shaped and stabilized in accordance with the requirement of the local plan-approving authority or the board where applicable. Emergency work or repairs will be reported to, and a land disturbing permit obtained from, the Department of Community Development, not later than the second working day following commencement of the work.

***“Land disturbing permit”***: A permit issued by the county for clearing, filling, excavating, grading or transporting, or any combination thereof, on all lands except those lands privately owned, occupied or operated for agricultural, horticultural or forestal purposes as defined in Subsection 208.4.

***“Local erosion and sediment control program or local control program”***: An outline or explanation of the various elements or methods employed by a district, county, city or town to regulate land disturbing activities and thereby minimize erosion and sedimentation in compliance with the state program, and may include such items as a local ordinance, policies and guidelines, technical materials, inspection, enforcement and evaluation.

***“Owner”***: The owner or owners of the freehold of the premises or lesser estate therein, including a mortgagee or vendee in possession, assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or other person, firm or corporation in control of a property.

**“Permittee”**: The person to whom the permit authorizing land disturbing activities is issued or the person who certifies that the approved erosion and sediment control plan will be followed.

**“Person”**: Any individual, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, utility, cooperative, county, city, town, or other political subdivision of the commonwealth, any interstate body, or any other legal entity.

**“Plan-approving authority”**: The Department of Community Development is the plan-approving authority for conservation plans submitted for land disturbing activities on a unit or units of land in the county. The John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District shall be offered the opportunity to comment on all such plans prior to their approval.

**“Stabilization”**: For the purpose of this section, stabilization is defined as ninety (90) percent permanent ground cover established to a height of two (2) inches and having survived for twelve (12) months without need of replanting or repair. The ninety (90) percent shall be equally distributed over the entire project area, with no evident bare spots.

**“State erosion and sediment control program or state program”**: The program adopted by the board, consisting of conservation standards, guidelines and criteria to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

**“State waters”**: All waters on the surface and under the ground wholly or partially within or bordering the commonwealth or within its jurisdiction.

**“Subdivision”**: The provisions of Section 2-39 of the subdivision ordinance of the county pertaining to the definition of subdivision within the county, are hereby adopted and incorporated mutatis mutandis in this section by reference.

**“Town”**: An incorporated town.

**“Transporting”**: Any moving of earth materials from one place to another, other than such movement incidental to grading, when such movement results in destroying the vegetative ground cover either by tracking or the buildup of earth materials to the extent that erosion and sedimentation will result from the soil or earth materials over which such transporting occurs.

### **208.3. Local program generally.**

(see appendix for checklist and technical bulletins).

(a) For the purpose of Section 208, the program authority and the plan approving authority shall be Fauquier County Department of Community Development. Inspection responsibilities shall be fulfilled by the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District and/or the Fauquier County Department of Community Development. Erosion and sediment control plans submitted for approval to the Department of Community Development under this section shall:

(1) Be prepared in accordance with Chapters 3 and 4 of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, as amended and the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations, 1990, as amended. The use of the engineering calculations and standard proactive indications provided in Chapters 2 and 5 of said handbook is recommended;

(2) Contain the elements listed and explained in Chapter 6 of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, as amended.

(b) The John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District and the Department of Community Development shall be guided by the standards and the criteria set forth in the current edition of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, as amended, and the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations, 1990, as amended, in considering the adequacy of plans submitted for approval.

(c) The issuance of a land disturbing permit under the provisions of this section shall not guarantee or vest the property owner with the right to receive any other administrative or legislative permit approval required for the use of the property which is subject of the land disturbing permit.

#### **208.4. Regulation of land disturbing activities.**

Except as provided in (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, no person shall engage in any land disturbing activity until he has received a land disturbing permit based upon an erosion and sediment control plan approved by the Department of Community Development. The preparation, submission, and approval of an erosion and sediment control plan shall be the responsibility of the owner.

(1) Any person who owns, occupies, or operates private land for agricultural, horticultural or forestal purposes shall not be deemed in violation of this section for land disturbing activities which result from the tilling, planting or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural or forest crops or products or engineering operations such as the construction of terraces, terrace outlets, check dams, desilting basins, floodwater retarding structures, channel improvements, floodways, dikes, ponds, ditches, and the like; the utilization of strip cropping, lister furrowing, contour cultivating, and contour furrowing; land drainage; land irrigation; seeding and planting of waste, sloping abandoned, or eroded lands to water-conserving and erosion-preventing plants, trees and grasses; forestation and reforestation; rotation of crops; soil stabilization with trees, grasses, legumes, and other thick growing, soil holding crops; retardation of runoff by increasing absorption of rainfall; and retirement from cultivation of steep, highly erosive areas and areas now badly gullied or otherwise eroded. Any person who owns, occupies, or operates private agricultural, horticultural or forest lands shall comply with the requirements of this section wherever that person proposes to conduct grading, excavating or filling operations, except as expressly exempted by this section.

(2) Any state agency that undertakes a project involving a land disturbing activity. A state agency shall not undertake a project involving a land-disturbing activity unless (i) the state agency has submitted annual specifications for its conduct of land-disturbing activities which have been reviewed and approved by the Department as being consistent with the state program or (ii) the state agency has submitted a conservation plan for the project which has been reviewed and approved by the Department.

(3) Any person whose land disturbing activities involve lands which extend into the jurisdiction of another local erosion and sediment control program; provided, such person has a plan approved by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. Such persons shall, however, comply with the requirements of this section regarding the provision of a

performance bond with surety, cash escrow, letter of credit, any combination thereof, or such other arrangement as is acceptable to the Department of Community Development.

(4) Electric, natural gas and telephone utility companies, interstate and intrastate natural gas pipeline companies and railroad companies shall file general erosion and sediment control specifications annually with the Board for review and approval. The specifications shall apply to:

- a. Construction, installation or maintenance of electric transmission, natural gas and telephone utility lines and pipelines; and
- b. Construction of the tracks, rights-of-way, bridges, communication facilities and other related structures and facilities of the railroad company.

The Board shall have 60 days in which to approve the specifications. If no action is taken by the Board within 60 days, the specifications shall be deemed approved. Individual approval of separate projects within subdivisions 1 and 2 of this subsection is not necessary when approved specifications are followed. Projects not included in subdivisions 1 and 2 of this subsection shall comply with the requirements of the appropriate local erosion and sediment control program. The Board shall have the authority to enforce approved specifications.

#### **208.5. Action on erosion and sediment control plan.**

(a) The Department of Community Development shall, within forty-five (45) days of submission, approve any erosion and sediment control plans if it determines that the plan meets the conservation standards of the local control program and if the applicant certifies that he will properly perform the erosion and sediment control measures included in the plan and comply with the provisions of this section, provided, however, plans submitted as part of applications for the approval of subdivisions or site plans may, at the request of the applicant, be subject to the time limits applicable to the subdivision or site plan application, so that modifications required as a result of the subdivision or site plan process can be made. Where a plan is submitted as part of an application for approval of a subdivision or site plan and the applicant does not request that it be reviewed subject to the time limit applicable to the subdivision or site plan application, such plan shall be reviewed and acted upon within forty-five (45) days, provided, however, where changes or modifications to the plan are required as a result of the subdivision or site plan process, the applicant shall submit the modification which shall be considered a new application for approval and shall be acted upon by the Department of Community Development within forty-five (45) days of the submission. The approval of any plan submitted with a subdivision or site plan application, but acted upon separately, shall not act to vest or grandfather the plan where modifications are required as part of the subdivision or site plan process.

(b) Disapproval of any plan shall be in writing and give the specific reasons for its disapproval. When a plan submitted for approval pursuant to this section is found to be inadequate, the Department of Community Development shall specify such modifications, terms, and conditions as will permit approval of the plan and shall

communicate these requirements to the applicant. If no action is taken by the Department of Community Development within the time specified in subsection (a), the plan shall be deemed approved and the person shall be authorized to proceed with the proposed activity.

(c) An approved plan may be modified by the Department of Community Development in the following cases:

- (1) Where inspection has revealed that the plan is inadequate to satisfy applicable regulations; or
- (2) Where the permittee finds that because of changed circumstances the approved plan cannot be effectively implemented, and proposed amendments to the plan, consistent with the requirements of this section, are agreed to by the Department of Community Development.

#### **208.6. Applications for land disturbing permit; fees.**

(a) Application for land disturbing permits shall be made to the Department of Community Development on forms, as specified by the administrator, and shall include five (5) copies of an erosion and sediment control plan prepared in accordance with this section, and the required fee.

(b) The person responsible for carrying out the plan shall provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence as provide by Section 10.1-561 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, who will be in charge of and responsible for carrying out the land disturbing activity.

(c) The Board of Supervisors shall establish from time to time a schedule of fees for the review and approval or disapproval of erosion and sediment control plans and the issuance of land disturbing permits. Such fees shall be paid to the Treasurer, Fauquier County, at the time of filing such plans or, if no plan is required upon the issuance of the land-disturbing permit.

#### **208.7. Approved plan required for issuance of permits; certification; performance guarantee.**

(a) The Department of Community Development shall not issue any land disturbing, building, zoning or site plan permits or subdivision approval for activities which involve land disturbing unless the applicant therefore submits with his application the approved erosion and sediment control plan or certification of such approved plan from the Department of Community Development, and certification that the plan will be followed. In addition, as a prerequisite to engaging in the land-disturbing activities shown on the approved plan, the person responsible for carrying out the plan shall provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence to the program authority, as provided by § 10.1-561, who will be in charge of and responsible for carrying out the land-disturbing activity.

(b) Where the land-disturbing activity results from the construction of a single-family residence, an agreement in lieu of a plan may be substituted for an erosion and sediment control plan if executed by the plan-approving authority. The authority may

waive the certificate of competence requirement for an agreement in lieu of a plan for construction of a single family residence. If a violation occurs during the land-disturbing activity, then the person responsible for carrying out the agreement in lieu of a plan shall correct the violation and provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence, as provided by § 10.1-561. Failure to provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence prior to engaging in land-disturbing activities may result in revocation of the approval of the plan and the person responsible for carrying out the plan shall be subject to the penalties in accordance with Title 10.1, Chapter 5 of the Virginia State Law.

(c) The Department of Community Development shall, prior to the approval of any application for subdivision or site plan, or the issuance of any grading, land disturbing, building or other permit, require from any applicant a reasonable performance guarantee with surety, cash escrow, letter of credit, any combination thereof, or such other legal arrangement as is acceptable to the Department of Community Development to ensure that emergency measures could be taken by the county at the applicant's expense should he fail, after proper notice, within the time specified to initiate or maintain appropriate conservation action which may be required of him as a result of his land disturbing activity. If the agency takes such conservation action upon such failure by the permittee, the agency may collect from the permittee for the difference should the amount of the reasonable cost of such action exceed the amount of security held. Within sixty (60) days of the achievement of adequate stabilization of the land disturbing activity, as determined by the Department of Community Development, such bond, cash escrow, letter of credit, or other legal arrangement, or the unexpended or unobligated portion thereof, shall be refunded to the applicant or terminated as the case may be. No land disturbing activity will be deemed completed until all permanent conservation measures are established. The requirement of any performance guarantee may be waived by the administrator if he determines that the application of such a requirement would impose an unnecessary hardship on the applicant or would be of an insignificant amount. In determining whether to waive any performance guarantee, the administrator shall consider the applicant's prior performance in implementing other plans.

(d) No land-disturbing permit shall be issued pursuant to this section prior to either:

- (1) Approval of construction plans and profiles;
- (2) Site plan approval; or
- (3) Subdivision approval as required.

(e) The requirements of this section are in addition to all other provisions of law which relate to the issuance of such permits and shall not be construed to otherwise affect the requirements of such permits.

#### **208.8. Monitoring, reports, and inspections.**

(a) The Department of Community Development shall ensure that the land disturbing activity is inspected periodically in accordance with those procedures set forth in the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, as amended, and the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations, 1990, as amended to ensure compliance with the approved plan and to determine whether the measures required in

that plan are effective in controlling erosion and sediment resulting from the land disturbing activity. Assistance in inspecting such activities will be provided by the county building inspector. The right-of-entry to conduct such inspection shall be expressly reserved in the permit and notice of inspection shall be given to the permittee.

(b) The Department of Community Development may require monitoring and reports from the permittee to ensure compliance with the approved plan and to determine whether the measures required in the plan are effective in controlling erosion and sedimentation. The Department of Community Development shall determine the content, the required number of reports and frequency for each project during the plan approval process upon recommendation of the plan review agency. Failure to submit the required reports will constitute a violation of the plan.

(c) If the Department of Community Development determines that the permittee has failed to comply with the plan, the Department of Community Development shall immediately serve upon the permittee, by registered or certified mail, to the address specified by the permittee in his permit application or by delivery at the site of the permitted activities to the employees of the permittee supervising such activities, a notice to comply. Such notice shall set forth specifically the measures needed to come into compliance with such plan and shall specify the time within which such measures shall be completed. If the permittee fails to comply in the time specified in the notice to comply, the Department of Community Development will take action to incur liability against the permit holder's performance bond, letter of credit, cash escrow, or other instrument to implement the needed conservation measures. Failure to implement the actions required in the notice to comply, shall be deemed to be in violation of this section and in addition the penalties specified in this section may result in the revocation, after due notice and hearing, of the permit and plan approval.

#### **208.9. Administrative appeal; judicial review.**

(a) Final decisions of the Department of Community Development under this section shall be subject to review by the Board of Supervisors, provided an appeal is filed within thirty (30) days from the date of any written decision by the Department of Community Development which adversely affects the rights, duties or privileges of the person engaging in or proposing to engage in land disturbing activities, provided, however, any permittee appealing a notice to comply shall take those corrective actions required in the notice to comply, which in the judgement of the administrator are necessary to protect against imminent danger of harmful erosion to land or sediment deposition in the watersheds of the commonwealth, with the time specified in the notice.

(b) Final decision of the Board of Supervisors under this section shall be subject to review by the circuit court of the county, provided an appeal is filed within thirty (30) days from the date of the final written decision of the board which adversely affects the rights, duties or privileges of the person engaging in or proposing to engage in land disturbing activities.

#### **208.10. Penalties, injunctions and other legal actions.**

(a) A violation of this section shall be deemed a class I misdemeanor.

(b) The zoning administrator may apply to the circuit court of the county for injunctive relief to enjoin a violation or a threatened violation of this section, without the necessity of showing that there does not exist an adequate remedy at law.

(c) The commonwealth's attorney shall, upon request of the Department of Community Development, take legal action to enforce the provisions of this section.

(d) Upon receipt of a sworn complaint of a violation of either Section 208.4 or 208.8 from the Department of Community Development, the county administrator may, in conjunction with or subsequent to a notice to comply as specified in Section 208.8, issue an order requiring that all or part of the land activities permitted on the site be stopped until the specified corrective measures have been taken or, if land disturbing activities have commenced without an approved plan as provided in Section 208.7, requiring that all land disturbing activities be stopped until an approved plan or any required permits are obtained. Where the alleged noncompliance is causing or is in imminent danger of causing harmful erosion of lands or sediment deposition in the watersheds of the commonwealth, or where the land disturbing activities have commenced without an approved plan or any required permits, such an order may be issued without regard to whether the permittee has been issued a notice to comply as specified in Section 208.8(b) above. The order shall be served in the same manner as a notice to comply, and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days from the date of service pending application by the enforcing authority or permit holder for appropriate relief of the alleged violator has not obtained an approved plan or any required permits within seven days from the date of service of the order, the county administrator may issue an order to the owner requiring that all construction and other work on the site, other than corrective measures, be stopped until an approved plan and any required permits have been obtained. Such an order shall be served upon the owner by registered or certified mail to the address specified in the permit application or the land records of the locality in which the site is located. The owner may appeal the issuance of an order to the circuit court of the jurisdiction wherein the violation was alleged to have occurred. Any person violating or failing, neglecting or refusing to obey an order issued by the county administrator may be compelled in a proceeding instituted in the circuit court of the jurisdiction wherein the violation was alleged to have occurred by injunction, mandamus or other appropriate remedy. Upon completion and approval of corrective action, or obtaining an approved plan or any required permits the order shall be immediately lifted.